

ABSTRACT

This report is a compilation of data on existing and potential archaeological resources, both prehistoric and historic, for the area under consideration for the Route 301 corridor in New Castle county, Delaware. The existing data consist of all archaeological sites listed in the files of the Delaware Bureau of Archaeological and Historic Preservation in Dover. In addition historic standing structures are listed because they may have associated archaeological remains. Listings were also compiled of potential archaeological resources based on the study of historic maps and documents. Predictive models were developed and applied to the study area to augment existing records and identify areas of archaeological potential and significance. Management zones allow assessment of the impacts of highway construction on the archaeology of the region and assist in the selection of a highway corridor that would minimize construction impacts on the region's cultural resources. In summary, 144 prehistoric sites are known in the study area and probability zones were established to predict undocumented sites. Historic resources include 34 historic archaeological sites, 412 documented historic standing structures, 257 potential historic standing structures, and 408 potential historic archaeological sites. Predictive models were developed for prehistoric sites and for two early historic time periods for which documentary evidence is sparse. Two corridor options within the larger study area are evaluated. The "Ridge" option has the least impact upon known and potential archaeological resources.